

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for logging a new user into a data processing
5 device with an operating system and an accessible element that is at least one of
an application program and sensitive data, comprising the ~~sequential~~ steps of:
- ending a first user's access to the accessible element without unloading or
restarting the accessible element;
- 10 ~~in a first step,~~ determining authentication data for authenticating a second
user;
- defining an identity and access rights depending on the authentication
data for the second user; and
- providing access, depending on the defined access rights, for at the
accessible element, that has not been unloaded or restarted, by the
15 second user ~~least one of the application program and sensitive~~
~~data;~~
- ~~the method being independent of restarting the operating system or the~~
~~application program.~~
- 20 2. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
- displaying a user interface, depending on the defined access rights;
- performing a user switch process step that causes the method to begin
again at the first step, content of a user interface remaining
unchanged until access rights have been defined again.

25

3. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the content of the user interface is reduced if the renewed definition of access rights defines a more limited scope than the previous definition allowed.

5 4. (original) The method according to claim 3, further comprising:
generating a warning message indicating a reduction in content and that
the user has an opportunity to begin the method at the first step
again before the reduction.

10 5. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
displaying a user interface in accordance with the access rights that are
defined;
deleting, by a User Logout procedure, content of a user interface; and
starting the method from the first step again.

15

6. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
logging all access to the application program and all access to the
sensitive data together with the respectively defined identity.

20 7. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
activating a screen saver by a defined condition to make a user interface
illegible; and
beginning the method from the first step again.

25 8. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the defined condition is
some amount of elapsed time.

9. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

blocking all access rights based upon a failed attempt to authenticate a user in the first step.

5 10. (currently amended) A computer system comprising:

an accessible element that is at least one of an application program and sensitive data that is accessible by a first user and a subsequent second user without unloading or restarting the accessible element;

a program stored in a memory element of the computer that is configured to run
10 on a data processing device to run the method according to claim 1. comprising:

a software module or algorithm for determining authentication data for authenticating the second user with respect to the accessible element;

a software module or algorithm for defining an identity and access rights
15 depending on the authentication data; and

a software module or algorithm for providing access, depending on the defined access rights, for the accessible element.

11. (currently amended) A computer readable data storage media having a
20 program thereon that comprises: ~~is stored upon it which can work with a data processing device to run the method according to claim 1.~~

a software module or algorithm for determining authentication data for authenticating a user into a data processing device with an operating system and an accessible element that is at least one of
25 an application program and sensitive data;

a software module or algorithm for defining an identity and access rights depending on the authentication data; and

a software module or algorithm for providing access by the user,
depending on the defined access rights, for the accessible element
subsequent to an access of the accessible element by a prior first
user without unloading or restarting the accessible element.